

Sculpting Figures



South Indian (Tamil Nadu), Candesvara, ca. 1000, granite. Gift of the Jaipaul Family, 2001. (2001.22.11)

Throughout time, people have created sculptures to show important people and god figures. This Indian sculpture depicts a Hindu god.

Do you spot any details on this sculpture? You might notice jewelry, markings, clothing and posing that let you know that this sculpture is a godly figure. If you created a sculpture of someone important to you, what details would you add?

Create a figural sculpture with clay, model magic, or DIY salt dough. Mix colors, sculpt your sculpture, and shape with tools to create a unique artwork.

Make At-Home Salt Dough

½ cup of salt ● 1 cup of Flour ● ¾ cup of water ●
Measuring cup ● Mixing bowl

Instructions: Assemble your ingredients. Measure out your flour, water and salt. Mix your flower, salt, and water together into a big bowl until it's even and smooth. You can use a whisk or fork, or your hands. If your dough is too dry, add more water. If it is too wet, add more flour. When your dough is mixed, you can knead it until it is smooth on a table or counter.

Add color by mixing in food coloring or adding markers or paint on top of dried clay.

Project Examples



